REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-49 are pending in the application. Claims 1-49 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

In the pending Restriction Requirement, the Examiner has taken the position that the claims are drawn to eight (8) distinct inventions. Specifically, the Examiner has grouped the claims as follows:

I. Claims 1-8, drawn to video coding with splitter for low frequency transform coefficients, classified in class 382, subclass 232.

II. Claims 9-21, drawn to video coding with limitations such as quantizing and extracting the coefficients, classified in class 382, and subclass 236.

III. Claims 22-25, drawn to video decoder, classified in class 382, and subclass 233.

IV. Claims 26-30, drawn to video decoder with limitations such as retrieving first data, also retrieving supplemental video data from storage, classified in class 382, and subclass 305.

V. Claims 31-34, drawn to run-length coding, with limitations such as determining a current consumption position, unless the current consumption position is within one of an end position classified in class 382, and subclass 245.

VI. Claims 35-40, drawn to data signal with limitations such as scan direction in a zigzag, classified in class 382, and subclass 319.

VII. Claims 41-44, drawn to video encoding with limitations such as a transform unit and a run length encoder for coding an extracted sub-set of coefficients, classified in class 382, and subclass 248.

VIII. Claims 45-49, drawn to video coding with limitations such as quantizing, extracting coefficients of a pair of blocks according to run length coding using a scan direction, classified in class 382, subclass 319 under video transform coding 382/248.

In response to the Restriction Requirement, Applicants provisionally elect with traverse, Group II, Claims 9-21, drawn to video coding with limitations such as quantizing and extracting

the coefficients, classified in class 382, and subclass 236. Claims 1-8, and 22-49, corresponding to Groups I and III-VIII, respectively, have been provisionally withdrawn.

Applicants respectfully object the Restriction Requirement as improper with respect to Group I (Claims 1-8), Group II (Claims 9-21), and Group VIII (Claims 45-49). Even assuming the Restriction Requirement's contention that the inventions listed in Groups I, II, and VIII are distinct, the Examiner has not shown a serious burden exists if the restriction is not required. MPEP § 808.02. The subject matter of the claims in these three groups are so highly related that, once the Examiner performs a search of the selected group, there will be minimal burden to further search the claims of Groups I and VIII.

The tables below demonstrate correspondence between the subject matter of representative claims from each of the respective groups:

GROUP II: CLAIM 9	GROUP I: CLAIM 1
9. (Original) A video coding method, comprising:	1. (Withdrawn) A video coding system, comprising:
organizing each frame of input video into a plurality of blocks of pixels,	
for each block:	
coding the block as a plurality of coefficients according to a predetermined transform,	a transform unit to code pixel data of a plurality of blocks as transform coefficients,
quantizing the block of coefficients according to a quantization parameter,	
extracting from each block a sub-set of coefficients,	a splitter to generate, from each block, a first sub-block including a preselected number of low frequency transform coefficients and a second sub-block including remaining transform coefficients,
coding the extracted coefficients according to run length coding and variable length coding and storing the result therefrom in a first file,	run length encoders for each of the first and second sub-blocks, and
coding the remaining coefficients according to run length coding and variable length coding and storing the results therefrom in a second filed separate from the first file.	variable length coders for each of the first and second sub-blocks.

GROUP II: CLAIM 9	GROUP VIII: CLAIM 45
9. (Original) A video coding method, comprising:	45. (Withdrawn) A video coding method, comprising:
organizing each frame of input video into a plurality of blocks of pixels,	organizing each frame of input video into a plurality of blocks of pixels,
for each block:	for each block:
coding the block as a plurality of coefficients according to a predetermined transform,	coding the block as a plurality of coefficients according to a predetermined transform,

GROUP II: CLAIM 9	GROUP VIII: CLAIM 45
quantizing the block of coefficients according to a quantization parameter,	quantizing the block of coefficients according to a quantization parameter,
extracting from each block a sub-set of coefficients,	extracting from each block a sub-set of coefficients,
coding the extracted coefficients according to run length coding and variable length coding and storing the result therefrom in a first file,	
coding the remaining coefficients according to run length coding and variable length coding and storing the results therefrom in a second filed separate from the first file.	
16. (Original) The video coding method of claim 9, wherein the run length coding of the extracted coefficients comprises run length coding extracted coefficients of a pair of blocks according to a scan direction that:	coding the extracted coefficients of a pair of blocks according to run length coding using a scan direction that:
progresses across a first of the low frequency sub-blocks in a zig-zag from a lowest frequency coefficient to a highest frequency coefficient therein,	progresses across a first block of the pair in a zig-zag from a lowest frequency coefficient to a highest frequency coefficient therein,
advances to a highest frequency coefficient of the second low frequency sub-block, and	advances to a highest frequency coefficient of a second block of the pair, and
progresses across the second low-frequency sub-block from the highest frequency coefficient to the lowest frequency coefficient in a zigzag.	progresses across the second block from the highest frequency coefficient to the lowest frequency coefficient in a zigzag.

Because there would be no serious burden to examine claims from Groups I, II, and VIII, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the Restriction Requirement with respect to these groups. Claims 1-21 and 45-49 can be examined in this application.

Respectfully submitted,

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